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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA
Seventh session
La Paz, Bolivia
15 May 1957

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE SIXTY-SEVENTH MEETING

Held at La Paz on Friday, 18 May, 1957 at 9.50 a.m.

CONTENTS:

General debate (concluded)

PRESENT:

Chairman:	Mr. MORENO CORDOVA	Bolivia
Rapporteur:	Mr. OLIVEIRA CAMPOS	Brazil
Members:	Mr. ISIDORO MARTINEZ	Argentina
	Mr. GISBERT	Bolivia
	Mr. HALES	Chile
	Mr. MORERA	Costa Rica
	Mr. GUAROA	Dominican Republic
	Mr. PONCE	Ecuador
	Mr. DUARTE	El Salvador
	Mr. BURON	France
	Mr. MELGAR LARRIEU	Guatemala
	Mr. JIMENEZ	Mexico
	Mr. WAGNAAR	Netherlands
	Mr. CASTILLO	Nicaragua
	Mr. CLEMENT	Panama
	Mr. HERMOGENES GONZALEZ	Paraguay
	Mr. MORELLI	Peru
	Mr. HENDERSON	United Kingdom
	Mr. RANDALL	United States of America
	Mr. ARIOSTO GONZALEZ	Uruguay
	Mr. PINO	Venezuela

/ALSO PRESENT:

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Observers from Member States:	Mr. CHENDOV	Bulgaria
	Mr. VESELY	Czechoslovakia
	Mr. MANCINI	Italy
	Mr. IZAWA	Japan
	Mr. DIMITRIU	Rumania
	Mr. ALFARO	Spain
	Mr. MIKHAILOV	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
Observer from a non-Member State:	Mr. von STOLZMANN	Federal Republic of Germany
Representatives of specialized agencies:	Mr. EZEKIEL	Food and Agriculture Organization
	Mr. CONSOLO	International Bank for Reconstruction and Development
	Mr. del CANTO	International Monetary Fund
	Mr. BLANCO	World Health Organization

Observers from inter-governmental organizations:

Mr. BERMUDEZ	Inter-American Economic and Social Council
Mr. ROYER	General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade
Mr. WIAZEMSKY	Inter-Governmental Committee for European Migration

Representatives of non-governmental organizations:

Category A:

Mr. GOLDSACK	International Federations of Christian Trade Unions

/Category B

Category B and Register:

Miss ESPINOSA	International Federation of Women Lawyers
Miss de WASSON	International Union for the Protection of Children
Mr. SALINAS MARIACA	World's Alliance of Young Men's Christian Associations

Secretariat:

Mr. de SEYNES	Under-Secretary for Economic and Social Affairs
Mr. PREBISCH	Executive Secretary
Mr. SWENSON	Deputy Director, Economic Commission for Latin America
Mr. URQUIDI	Director, Economic Commission for Latin America, Mexico Office
Mr. SANTA CRUZ	Secretary of the Commission

GENERAL DEBATE (concluded)

Mr. GISBERT (Bolivia)[1/] described what his Government was doing to overcome backward methods of production and to raise the level of living, which was one of the lowest in Latin America. Since 1952 it had concentrated upon three main objects: namely, the nationalization of mines, land reform and economic diversification. Many difficulties still remained, however, and Bolivia would require international assistance, both financial and technical, to develop its tremendous natural resources.

Mr. HALES (Chile)[2/] analysed the far-reaching stabilization programme upon which his Government had embarked as a means of checking inflation and establishing a sound basis for the economic development of the country. Chile, which had consistently advocated the economic integration of the Latin American continent as an ultimate economic goal, hoped that some progress in that direction could be made at the present session.

Mr. ISIDORO MARTINEZ (Argentina),[3/] reviewing recent economic developments in Argentina, said that the country's present agricultural problems could be solved only by mechanization and the introduction of new techniques. Although

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1/ For the full text of Mr. Gisbert's statement, see Information Document N° 24.

2/ For the full text of Mr. Hale's statement, see Information Document N° 25.

3/ For the full text of Mr. Isidoro Martinez' statement, see Information Document N° 26.

/Argentina would

Argentina would endeavour to reduce its vulnerability to fluctuations in world markets by importing large amounts of capital goods, it realized that the economic problems common to the Latin American countries could be solved only by the co-ordination of their economic development plans, the establishment of complementary industries and lastly the formation of a common market as the logical consequence of a historical process.

Mr. RANDALL (United States of America)[4/] said that, as economic development as well as political stability was essential for world peace, his Government had made a point of supporting the establishment of the various specialized agencies and the three Regional Commissions. To make the best use of the resources of those bodies, however, every effort should be made to avoid duplication and requests for inessential studies. He welcomed the progress which had taken place in Latin America in 1956 and said that the United States, after a slight recession, had resumed its long-term growth.

Mr. HERMOGENES GONZALES (Paraguay)[5/] gave an outline of the current economic position in Paraguay. The Government was making a strong effort to counteract inflation and to that end was controlling prices and imports and endeavouring to foster production. Its efforts were being greatly assisted by experts from the Technical Assistance Administration and various

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4/ For the full text of Mr. Randall's statement, see Information Document N° 27.

5/ For the full text of Mr. Hermógenes Gonzalez' statement, see Information Document N° 28.

specialized agencies.

Mr. CONSOLO (International Bank of Reconstruction and Development) 6/ gave a brief description of the current activities of the Bank in so far as they related to the work of ECLA.

Mr. BLANCO (World Health Organization) 7/ gave an outline of the functions of the Pan-American Sanitary Bureau and stressed the relationship between economic development and the health of the population.

Mr. MANCINI (Italy) 8/ drew attention to the contribution, both in money and in people, which his country had made to the countries of Latin America. He assured the representatives of those countries that, while Italy would play its part as a member of the European common market, it had no intention of discontinuing its close relationship with Latin America.

Mr. ALFARO (Spain) 9/ presented a detailed account of agricultural and industrial development in Spain, which was beset by problems similar to those faced by the Latin American countries. His Government was doing its best to curb inflation and do away with the unfavourable balance of payments, and it was particularly interested in the economic programme of the Latin American countries.

6/ For the full text of Mr. Consolo's statement, see Information Document N° 29.

7/ For the full text of Mr. Blanco's statement, see Information Document N° 30.

8/ For the full text of Mr. Mancini's statement, see Information Document N° 31.

9/ For the full text of Mr. Alfaro's statement, see Information Document N° 32.

/The CHAIRMAN

The CHAIRMAN declared the general debate closed.

The meeting rose at 1.5 p.m.